

Justices and Members of the President's Cabinet. Although the group was founded as an organization for congressional wives, the group includes husbands too, as we are privileged to now have 86 women serving in this great body, in addition to the many before them and those who have served in Presidential Administrations since 1908.

I am also pleased to rise today, as someone very special to me has been involved with this organization since my first election to Congress in 2002. My wife, Alfredua, was the chair of the 2008 Congressional Club First Lady's Luncheon, an event held by the Club annually since 1912. At the event entitled "The Many Splendors of Spring," Mrs. Bush was presented with a lovely quilt commissioned by Arts Clayton, an organization located in my congressional district, which was handmade by Ms. Debra Svitil of Alpharetta, Georgia.

Artist Theresa Fontes-Black, of Snellville, Georgia, was also commissioned to create over 2,000 glass-bead necklaces of various shapes and designs for luncheon attendees as party favors. It was an honor for Arts Clayton and the 13th Congressional District to have such beautiful recognition in this time-honored tradition. In addition to this outstanding social event, members are also involved in social service projects to benefit those less fortunate. Proceeds from the sale of the Congressional Club's annual cookbook not only support the clubs activities but also support charitable giving to organizations throughout the area.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the important work of the Congressional Club by celebrating its centennial on the House floor today and urging its passage.

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**PRaising THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF
 AN AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHT:
 LORRAINE HANSBERRY**

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and recognize the birthday of Lorraine Hansberry, whose work, *A Raisin in the Sun* became the first Broadway production of a black playwright. Lorraine Hansberry is the foremother of African-American drama. As the youngest American, the fifth woman, and the first black to win the New York Drama Critic's Circle Award as Best Play of the Year for *A Raisin in the Sun*, she has paved the way for many of her peers. To *Be Young, Gifted and Black*, an autobiographical portrait in her own words won the record for longest Off-Broadway running drama in 1968.

Lorraine Hansberry's work does not stop at the stages of Broadway; her work provided many in White America with their first exposure to the reality of the pain and struggles associated with being Black in America. She used the success of *A Raisin in the Sun* as a platform, becoming a spokesperson for the American Civil Rights Movement. Ms. Hansberry's first brush with the struggles of civil rights occurred when her family moved into an all-White neighborhood. White landowners in the area had relied on a restrictive covenant in order to not sell property to any person of color. The legal struggle to permit

them to move to and live in an integrated environment led to the landmark Supreme Court case of *Hansberry v. Lee*, 311 U.S. 32 (1940). This experience later inspired her to write her most famous work, *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Today marks the birth of this great American 78 years ago. Although her life was cut short, her impact on her peers and her field will continue to be a testimony to hard work and what it means to be deeply committed to the causes of justice and equality.

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**A PROCLAMATION HONORING SERGEANT
 MICHAEL L. ART FOR HIS
 SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES
 ARMY**

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Sergeant Michael L. Art served in the United States Army; and

Whereas, he distinguished himself through valorous actions while serving as a Squad Leader with Company A, 4th Battalion, 39th, an engaged infantry unit dispatched to the Republic of Vietnam; and

Whereas, Sergeant Michael L. Art displayed personal bravery and devotion to duty as a soldier in the United States Army; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Sergeant Michael L. Art for his contributions to his community and country.

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**HONORING DR. ANDREAS G.
 TZAKIS**

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Andreas G. Tzakis, who is the recipient of the Panhellenic Federation of Florida Award. A Professor of Surgery at the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, Dr. Tzakis is one of the top transplant surgeons in the world, as well as a preeminent educator and research scientist.

A native of Greece, Dr. Tzakis attended the University of Athens Medical School and served in the medical corps of the Greek Air Force. He came to the United States in 1977 where he spent the next 6 years as a resident at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and then the State University of New York at Stony Brook. It was said that he transformed into "one of the best surgeons in the world," while serving as a surgical fellow with the world renowned transplant team of Dr. Thomas Starzl at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Tzakis has served in several leadership positions and is a member of numerous professional organizations. He is a founding member of the International Pancreas and Islet Transplant Association. He has also published over 600 papers, abstracts, and book chapters, and has been a visiting professor at medical schools across the United States, Eu-

rope, and Asia. He was recognized internationally in 1994 for the transplantation of two baboon livers into humans, and has led the way in transplanting insulin-producing cells from the pancreas and performing intestinal and multi-visceral organ transplantations.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Tzakis is not only a great surgeon but has also developed innovative techniques that have advanced transplant surgery in general. I am truly honored to recognize a person who has contributed so much to modern medicine, his peers, and the world. His work to save lives is legendary.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I missed a number of votes on May 6th and 7th as I was attending the funeral service for a soldier who was from my Congressional District and was killed in Baghdad, Iraq while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On Rollcall vote No. 249, H.R. 3658—a bill to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to permit rest and recuperation travel to United States territories for members of the Foreign Service. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall vote No. 251, H. Con. Res. 317—a Condemning the Burmese regime's undemocratic draft constitution and scheduled referendum. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall vote No. 252, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Con. Res. 317—a Condemning the Burmese regime's undemocratic draft constitution and scheduled referendum. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall vote No. 25, H. Con. Res. 1109—Honoring the memory of Dith Pran by remembering his life's work and continuing to acknowledge and remember the victims of genocides that have taken place around the globe. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall vote No. 252, Table Motion to Reconsider H. Con. Res. 1109—Honoring the memory of Dith Pran by remembering his life's work and continuing to acknowledge and remember the victims of genocides that have taken place around the globe. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 255, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 256, S. 2929 to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 257, Table Motion to Reconsider—S. 2929 To temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 258, On Motion to Instruct Conferees—Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 259, Table Motion to Reconsider—Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 260, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."